LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 2 (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the step of placing a call links said endpoint to said packet-switched conferencing system component through said packet-switched audio conferencing system.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein routing instructions for said audio conference include at least a location found signal indicating the selected multip[[le]]oint control unit.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the call includes at least a location request signal.

6. (Currently amended) A method of establishing an audio conference in [[an]]a purely packet-swithced audio conferencing system, the method comprising:

    initiating a call from an endpoint to said purely packet-switched audio conferencing system, said call indicating said audio conference;

    selecting, in a conference allocation and control system in said purely packet-switched audio conferencing system, a multip[[le]]oint control unit to host said audio conference;

    determining in said conference allocation and control system whether the call from said endpoint contains adequate information to establish said audio conference;

    responding from said conference allocation and control system to said endpoint with routing instructions to an interactive voice response server when there is inadequate information to establish said audio conference;

    connecting said endpoint to said interactive voice response server when there is inadequate information to route said call;

    gathering in said interactive voice response server, after connecting said endpoint to said interactive voice response server, said adequate information to establish said audio conference; and

    transferring said endpoint from said interactive voice response server to said selected multip[[le]]oint control unit after said interactive voice response server gathers said adequate information.

7. (Currently amended) A method for adding an additional endpoint to an audio conference in a purely packet-switched audio conferencing system, said method comprising:

> placing a call from an endpoint to a packet-switched conferencing system component, said call indicating an audio conference;

> selecting, in a conference allocation and control system in said audio conferencing system, a multip[[le]]joint control unit to host said audio conference;

> initiating a call request from said selected multip[[le]]joint control unit to said packet-switched conferencing system component, said call request indicating said additional endpoint;

> returning a destination address from said packet-switched conferencing system component to said selected multip[[le]]joint control unit, said destination address corresponding to said additional endpoint;

> establishing a point-to-point call from said multip[[le]]joint control unit to said additional endpoint based on said destination address, thereby bringing said additional endpoint into said audio conference.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 further supporting full service audio conferencing using a reservation system and a call agent.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the reservation system and the call agent are tightly integrated.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the reservation system and the call agent are loosely integrated.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further including dynamically routing an operator voice path to service multiple multip[[le]]joint control units.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further including renegotiating the destination of a voice path to move an audio conference participant from said selected multip[[le]]oint control unit to a second multip[[le]]oint control unit.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further including moving said audio conference from said selected multip[[le]]oint control unit to a second multip[[le]]oint control unit.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising:

> providing said audio conference to a streaming protocol server from said selected
> > multip[[le]]oint control unit;
>
> connecting a passive participant to said streaming protocol server; and
>
> broadcasting said audio conference from said streaming protocol server to a said
> > passive participant.

Claims 16 – 31 (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said selecting said multip[[le]]oint control unit comprises:

> selecting in said conference allocation and control system a first multip[[le]]oint
> > control unit to host said audio conference when said audio conference is
> > inactive.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said selecting said multip[[le]]oint control unit comprises:

> selecting in said conference allocation and control system a second
> > multip[[le]]oint control unit to host said audio conference when said audio
> > conference is active.

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

    responding from said conference allocation and control system to said endpoint with queried routing instructions, said queried routing instructions indicating said selected multip[[le]]oint control unit.

35. (Currently amended) A method of establishing an audio conference in [[an]] a packet-swithed audio conferencing system, the method comprising:

    initiating a call from an endpoint to said packet-switched audio conferencing system, said call indicating said audio conference;

    determining in a conference allocation and control system whether the call from said endpoint contains adequate information to establish said audio conference;

    responding from said conference allocation and control system to said endpoint with routing instructions to an interactive voice response server when there is inadequate information to establish said audio conference;

    connecting said endpoint to said interactive voice response server when there is inadequate information to route said call;

    gathering in said interactive voice response server, after connecting said endpoint to said interactive voice response server, said adequate information to establish said audio conference; and

    transferring said endpoint from said interactive voice response server to said audio conference after said interactive voice response server gathers said adequate information.

36. (Currently amended) The method of claim 35 further comprising:

    selecting, in said conference allocation and control system, a multip[[le]]oint control unit to host said audio conference.

37. (Currently amended) The method of claim 36 further including dynamically routing an operator voice path to service multiple multip[[le]]oint control units.

38. (Currently amended) The method of claim 36 further including renegotiating the destination of a voice path to move an audio conference participant from said selected multip[[le]]oint control unit to a second multip[[le]]oint control unit.

39. (Currently amended) The method of claim 36 further including moving said audio conference from said selected multip[[le]]oint control unit to a second multip[[le]]oint control unit.